

Kindergarten to College Workgroup Meeting
January 31, 2008 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Governor's Budget Office Conference Room
2nd Floor State Capitol
DRAFT Minutes

Agenda	Notes	Action Item
1:00 pm Roll Call	Attendance: Erin Williams, Chair, <i>Parent Representative</i> Steve Meloy, <i>Board of Public Education</i> Linda McCulloch, <i>Superintendent of Public Instruction</i> Sheila Stearns, <i>Commissioner of Higher Education</i> James Stipcich, <i>Student Assistance Foundation</i> Vicki Turner, <i>DPHHS</i> Keith Kelly, <i>Commissioner of Labor & Industry</i> Pat Wise, <i>Office of Economic Development</i> Jonathan Windy Boy, <i>Governor's Representative</i> Steve Gettel, <i>School for the Deaf and Blind</i> Dick Clark, <i>Chief Information Officer</i> Jan Lombardi, <i>Governor's Education Policy Advisor</i> Excused: Janine Pease, Vice Chair, <i>Board of Regents</i> Rachel Grosvold, <i>Student Representative</i> Andy Poole, <i>Department of Commerce</i> David Ewer, <i>Budget Director</i>	
1:10 pm Approve October 10, 2007 Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dick Clark made a motion to approve the October 10th meeting minutes; motion was seconded by Sheila Stearns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve January 31 meeting minutes

<p>1:20 pm Opening Remarks <i>Chairperson Erin Williams</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erin could not attend the most recent Board of Education meeting but has been reading in the paper that much progress has been made, especially with the collaborative work on dual enrollment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting focus is to update one another on status of priority areas and share data that is pertinent to better understanding how to accomplish the Governor's Homework Assignment – Students Ready for College and Work - Appreciate everyone's hard work and attendance at the meeting - Reminder that public comment is welcome 	
<p>1:30 pm Lead Agency Updates on the Kindergarten to College Priority Areas</p>	<p>1) Dual enrollment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Meloy offered the group a history of the dual enrollment issue in Montana noting that the first phase of the Distance Learning Task Force agreed on a set of definitions and also recommended to the Board of Public Education that providers of distance learning be licensed and endorsed in Montana. • The group is looking into creating a Class 8 license for college faculty. The timeline that the group is hoping for is to make recommendations at the July Board of Public Education meeting. • Jonathan Windy Boy asked about representatives from tribal colleges on the task force. There are three representatives from higher education, one of which is Cindy O'Dell from Salish Kootenai College. 	
	<p>2) Statewide education data system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tyler Trevor reported to the group on the priority area to build a statewide data system. He and staff from OPI met with the National Transcript Center to 	

	<p>learn about their system of electronic transcripts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An electronic transcript transfer system helps answer questions like, what best prepares students for success in college or work. An electronic transcript system also helps students seamlessly transfer credits for classes from high school to college, such as tech prep. • The system uses a set of unique identifiers which would be an add-on to OPI's student data system. 	
<p>2:00 pm OPI's Campaign to Inform High School Students and Parents About College Readiness <i>Superintendent Linda McCulloch</i></p>	<p>3) Alignment from high school to college → Superintendent's College Readiness Campaign</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linda McCulloch reported to the group that she and some staff members met with Sheila Stearns and staff on the high school to college alignment issue. • Both recognized the importance of promoting college readiness/preparedness and are concerned that students not be caught by surprise when they enter college; they will continue to work on the alignment issue. • The primary effort moving forward is the Superintendent's outreach campaign to promote college readiness, which the workgroup supported. • The goal of the campaign is to educate students and parents about the importance of college prep classes. Information will include an example timeline of when to take courses, scholarship opportunities available, and the importance of the senior year. • The workgroup should send suggestions to Linda for ideas to include in the college readiness campaign. 	

<p>2:30 pm Update on KnowHow2Go website <i>Student Assistance Foundation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kelly Chapman updated the group on the KnowHow2Go website which was launched in the fall by the Student Assistance Foundation. KnowHow2Go is a national campaign which emphasizes 4 steps to get to college • She also discussed college goal Sunday which is going on at 17 locations across the state and includes a car raffle. • Smart About College is another college-access site run by the Student Assistance Foundation. • The Montana Career Information System, which is also linked on the website, allows students to compare and get information about different career paths. It is managed by the Department of Labor. • There was discussion that Montana students have multiple access points for information on going to college and need a focal place. 	
<p>2:45 pm National Caucus of Native American State Legislators (NCNASL) Education Policy Summit Summary <i>Senator Carol Juneau</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carol Juneau gave the workgroup a summary of a Report by the National Caucus of Native American State Legislators (NCNASL) on Closing the Achievement Gap for American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Students. This information was reported out by the Caucus' researcher Chris Lohse at an Education Summit in September 2007. She outlined data on the NAEP reading and math scores for Native students in Montana in addition to risk ratios for dropout and school expulsion. She reminded the group that for some of Montana's students, the biggest challenge is getting them to graduate from high school, let alone take college preparatory classes. • The report emphasized the importance of early education, including pre-school programs for 	

	American Indian students. Jan emphasized the huge step that Montana has taken with implementing Full-Time Kindergarten and that, as a state, we are not ready to go to a statewide preschool program.	
3:15 pm Labor Trends Update <i>Keith Kelly, Commissioner of Labor & Industry</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keith Kelly shared with the group a report on Occupations in the Montana Economy. Some of the top 10 medium wage jobs that employ the most workers are teaching positions. • Many of Montana's jobs require high school degrees and additional job training. Keith went through the jobs that employ the greatest number of people in various wage brackets, and the fastest growing occupations • Keith presented a series of short films produced by the Billings Workforce Center and shown to 1,500 K-12 students in the Yellowstone Valley. The videos included interviews with people employed in local businesses such as welders and bankers to encourage students to think about those jobs and the training that's required. 	
3:45 pm Workgroup Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erin Williams requested that the group ask Barbara Ross who previously met with some education leaders in the Governor's Office to come and facilitate a meeting of the Kindergarten to College Workgroup at the April meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda ideas for next meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Facilitate conversation with Dick on technology framework.

* All meeting handouts are available online at: <http://governor.mt.gov/boed/>